

**DW 04-184**

**HAMPSTEAD AREA WATER COMPANY, INC.**

**Order of Notice on Petition to Acquire Assets and Incur Debt for Cricket Hill/Maplevale Farms and Woods and Residences at Maplevale**

**DW 04-196**

**HAMPSTEAD AREA WATER COMPANY, INC.**

**Order of Notice Scheduling Prehearing Conference and Order Suspending the taking effect of Proposed Permanent Rates for Camelot Court, Cornerstone Estates, Lamplighter Estates, and Cricket Hill/Maplevale Farms and Woods and Residences at Maplevale**

**ORDER NO. 24,406**

**November 19, 2004**

On October 6, 2004, Hampstead Area Water Company, Inc., (Hampstead) a regulated public utility, filed with the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (Commission), a Petition for Order to Acquire Assets and Incur Debt for a satellite water system that will provide service to approximately 106 customers at Cricket Hill/Maplevale Farm condominiums, located in East Kingston, New Hampshire. The filing was submitted in accordance with the Stipulation Agreement in DW 03-150, approved by Commission Order No. 24,299 (March 26, 2004) as well as the Stipulation Agreement in DW 02-128, approved by Commission Order No. 24,362 (August 19, 2004). This filing was docketed as DW 04-184.

On October 19, 2004, Hampstead submitted a Petition to the Commission to establish permanent rates for systems serving Camelot Court located in Nottingham, Cornerstone Estates located in Sandown and Fremont, Lamplighter Estates located in Kingston, and Cricket Hill/Maplevale located in East Kingston. The proposed permanent rates were submitted in accordance with the Stipulation Agreement in DW 02-128, approved by Commission Order No.

24,362 (August 19, 2004). This filing was docketed as DW 04-196.

Hampstead proposes the following permanent rates:

<u>System</u>	<u>Customers Served</u>	<u>Charge/qtr.</u>	<u>Charge per 100 Cu. Ft.</u>	<u>Estimated Annual Bill</u>
Camelot Court	20	\$25.00	\$4.57	\$491.87
Cornerstone	37	\$25.00	\$3.74	\$421.20
Lamplighter	56	\$25.00	\$2.46	\$311.36
Cricket Hill/ Maplevale	106	\$25.00	\$3.52	\$402.00

Hampstead states the proposed rates are estimated to provide annual revenue for Camelot Court of \$9,837; Cornerstone Estates, \$15,584; Lamplighter Estates, \$17,436 and Cricket Hill/Maplevale, \$42,612. Hampstead has requested the permanent rates be approved for bills rendered on or about January 1, 2005.

The filing raises, inter alia, issues related to RSA 369 and the proposed financing; RSA 378 and the just and reasonableness of the proposed rates, fares, and charges; and Puc 1203.05 and the request to waive implementation of rate changes on a service rendered basis.

In order to conduct a thorough investigation as to whether the proposed financing of the Cricket Hill/Maplevale system and proposed permanent rates for Camelot Court, Cornerstone Estates, Lamplighter Estates, and Cricket Hill/Maplevale are in the public good, a prehearing conference will be held, followed by a technical session at which time the parties will prepare and submit to the Commission, for approval, a proposed procedural schedule governing the investigation into these Petitions.

**Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby**

**ORDERED**, that Hampstead's proposed permanent rates for Camelot Court, Cornerstone Estates, Lamplighter Estates and Cricket Hill/Maplevale be and hereby are suspended pending investigation and decision; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that during the pendency of the rate proceeding, staff conduct a thorough investigation and submit to the Commission a recommendation as to whether or not the terms and conditions of the acquisition of assets and the proposed debt financing of Cricket Hill/Maplevale are in the public good; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that a Prehearing Conference, pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.05, will be held before the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission located at 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on January 12, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. at which each party and Commission Staff will provide a preliminary summary of its positions with regard to the Petitions; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that immediately following the Prehearing Conference, Hampstead, Commission Staff and Intervenors hold a First Technical Session to review the noticed issues; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.01, Hampstead notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than November 29, 2004, in a statewide newspaper of general circulation, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before January 12, 2005; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that Hampstead serve an accurate and complete summation of its proposed rate change and a copy of this Order of Notice, in accordance with N.H. Admin. Rule 1604.03(g), on current and known prospective customers of Camelot Court, Cornerstone Estates, Lamplighter Estates, and Cricket Hill/Maplevale as well as the town Clerks in Nottingham, Sandown, Kingston, and East Kingston by first class U.S. Mail, postmarked no later than November 29, 2004; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that pursuant to N. H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.02, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission an original and eight copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to Hampstead and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before January 7, 2005, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interests may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Admin. Rule Puc 203.02 (a)(2); and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before January 12, 2005.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this nineteenth  
day of November, 2004.

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Thomas B. Getz  
Chairman

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Graham J. Morrison  
Commissioner

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Michael D. Harrington  
Commissioner

Attested by:

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Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director & Secretary